

## General

### Title

Nursing care: percentage of hand washes carried out.

### Source(s)

Quality indicators in critically ill patients. Madrid (Spain): Spanish Society of Intensive and Critical Care and Units Coronary (SEMICYUC); 2011. 185 p.

## Measure Domain

### Primary Measure Domain

Clinical Quality Measures: Process

### Secondary Measure Domain

Does not apply to this measure

## Brief Abstract

### Description

This measure is used to assess the percentage of hand washes carried out.

### Rationale

The aim of intensive care medicine is to provide critical patients with the healthcare that they need, ensuring the quality and safety of care. Intensive care medicine is one of the principal components of modern healthcare systems. There is an increasing demand for this resource, which involves high costs.

The quality of care has gradually come to be the central focus of healthcare, and in recent years patient safety has come to represent one of the key aspects of quality. In the case of intensive care medicine, this interest in quality is even more evident, not only because of its social and economic impact, but also because some of the dimensions involved in the quality of care of critical patients take on greater importance: critical patients are more vulnerable, access to critical care is more limited so efforts to distribute resources equitably are more important, scant scientific evidence is available, and the efficiency is limited.

Hand washing is the most important measure for reducing nosocomial infections. These infections increase morbidity, mortality, and the costs of care. Using alcohol-based solutions reduces the incidence of nosocomial infections by 40%.

## Evidence for Rationale

Boyce JM, Pittet D, Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee, HICPAC/SHEA/APIC/IDSA Hand Hygiene Task Force. Guideline for Hand Hygiene in Health-Care Settings. Recommendations of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee and the HICPAC/SHEA/APIC/IDSA Hand Hygiene Task Force. Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America/Association for Professionals in Infection Control/Infectious Diseases Society of America. MMWR Recomm Rep. 2002 Oct 25;51(RR-16):1-45, quiz CE1-4. [PubMed](#)

Elola-Vicente P, Aroca-Palencia J, Huertas-Paredero MV, D  ez-Sebasti  n J, Rivas-Bellido L, Mart  nez-Mart  nez G, N  ijera-Santos MC, Mu   oz-Garc  a ML. [A hand hygiene education program. Comparison between handwashing and the use of alcohol solutions]. Enfermeria Clin. 2008 Jan-Feb;18(1):5-10. [PubMed](#)

Kampf G, L  ffler H, Gastmeier P. Hand hygiene for the prevention of nosocomial infections. Dtsch Arztebl Int. 2009 Oct;106(40):649-55. [PubMed](#)

Quality indicators in critically ill patients. Madrid (Spain): Spanish Society of Intensive and Critical Care and Units Coronary (SEMICYUC); 2011. 185 p.

The Joint Commission. Measurement hand hygiene adherence: overcoming the challenges. Oakbrook Terrace (IL): The Joint Commission; 2009. 234 p.

World Health Organization (WHO). WHO guidelines on hand hygiene in health care. Geneva (Switzerland): World Health Organization; 2009. 270 p.

## Primary Health Components

Nursing care; hand washing

## Denominator Description

Number of opportunities for hand washes in the department (see the related "Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions" field)

## Numerator Description

Number of hand washes carried out

## Evidence Supporting the Measure

### Type of Evidence Supporting the Criterion of Quality for the Measure

A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical research evidence

A formal consensus procedure, involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, public health and

organizational sciences

One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

## Additional Information Supporting Need for the Measure

Unspecified

## Extent of Measure Testing

Unspecified

## State of Use of the Measure

### State of Use

Current routine use

### Current Use

not defined yet

## Application of the Measure in its Current Use

### Measurement Setting

Hospital Inpatient

Intensive Care Units

### Professionals Involved in Delivery of Health Services

not defined yet

### Least Aggregated Level of Services Delivery Addressed

Single Health Care Delivery or Public Health Organizations

### Statement of Acceptable Minimum Sample Size

Unspecified

### Target Population Age

Age greater than or equal to 18 years

## Target Population Gender

Either male or female

# National Strategy for Quality Improvement in Health Care

## National Quality Strategy Aim

Better Care

## National Quality Strategy Priority

Health and Well-being of Communities

Prevention and Treatment of Leading Causes of Mortality

# Institute of Medicine (IOM) National Health Care Quality Report Categories

## IOM Care Need

Getting Better

Staying Healthy

## IOM Domain

Effectiveness

# Data Collection for the Measure

## Case Finding Period

Unspecified

## Denominator Sampling Frame

Professionals/Staff

## Denominator (Index) Event or Characteristic

Health Professional Characteristic

## Denominator Time Window

not defined yet

## Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

Number of opportunities for hand washes in the department

Note:

Evidence-based recommendations:

Hygienic wash:

Procedure: With water and neutral soap. Duration: 20 seconds.

Indicated: Before: Starting the shift, going to eat, having contact with the patient, manipulating systems that should be sterile, preparing medication or food, performing procedures of short duration (less than 10 minutes), and whenever dirt is visible. After: using the lavatory, eating, manipulating material contaminated with secretions, touching a patient, and finishing the shift. Before and after: contact with wounds and handling drainage systems. Between: contact with different patients.

Antiseptic wash:

Procedure: Alcohol-based solution. Duration: 2 minutes.

Indicated: Before performing invasive procedures of long duration (20 minutes) and any maneuver in immunodepressed patients. Wearing gloves does NOT mean hand washing is unnecessary.

Population: All healthcare staff during the period reviewed (physicians, registered nurses, nurse's aides, and all others)

### Exclusions

Unspecified

## Exclusions/Exceptions

not defined yet

## Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

Number of hand washes carried out

### Exclusions

Unspecified

## Numerator Search Strategy

Fixed time period or point in time

## Data Source

Other

## Type of Health State

Does not apply to this measure

## Instruments Used and/or Associated with the Measure

Unspecified

## Computation of the Measure

## Measure Specifies Disaggregation

Does not apply to this measure

## Scoring

Rate/Proportion

## Interpretation of Score

Desired value is a higher score

## Allowance for Patient or Population Factors

not defined yet

## Standard of Comparison

not defined yet

## Prescriptive Standard

Standard: 90%

## Evidence for Prescriptive Standard

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## Identifying Information

### Original Title

Compliance with hand-washing protocols.

### Measure Collection Name

Quality Indicators in Critically Ill Patients

### Measure Set Name

Nursing Care

### Submitter

Spanish Society of Intensive and Critical Care and Units Coronary - Clinical Specialty Collaboration

## Developer

Spanish Society of Intensive and Critical Care and Units Coronary - Clinical Specialty Collaboration

## Funding Source(s)

Boehringer Laboratories

## Composition of the Group that Developed the Measure

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## Financial Disclosures/Other Potential Conflicts of Interest

Unspecified

## Adaptation

This measure was not adapted from another source.

## Date of Most Current Version in NQMC

2011 Mar

## Measure Maintenance

Unspecified

## Date of Next Anticipated Revision

2016 Jul

## Measure Status

This is the current release of the measure.

The measure developer reaffirmed the currency of this measure in May 2016.

## Measure Availability

Source available in [English](#)  and [Spanish](#)  from the Spanish Society of Intensive and Critical Care and Units Coronary (SEMICYUC) Web site.

For more information, contact SEMICYUC at Paseo de la Reina Cristina, 36, 4<sup>o</sup> D, Madrid, Spain; Phone: +34-91-502-12-13; Fax: +34-91-502-12-14; Web site: [www.semicyuc.org](http://www.semicyuc.org) ; E-mail: [secretaria@semicyuc.org](mailto:secretaria@semicyuc.org).

## NQMC Status

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on March 20, 2014. The information was verified by the measure developer on April 25, 2014.

The information was reaffirmed by the measure developer on May 10, 2016.

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## Production

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